

1

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

3       1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

4       a jet mill for the comminution of powdery materials, comprising;

5       a pressure-resistant pulverizing inner casing, the inner casing for being contained in a  
6       pressurized outer casing, the inner casing having abrasion resistant inner  
7       surfaces, the inner casing having at least one first inlet port for introducing a  
8       powdery material into the inner casing, the inner casing having at least one  
9       outlet port for extracting the comminuted powdery material from the inner  
10      casing, the inner casing having at least one second inlet port for introducing a  
11      propellant fluid into the inner casing, the propellant fluid introduced from a  
12      pressurized fluid filled volume contained between an inner surface of the outer  
13      casing and the outer surface of the inner casing.

1       2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the outer casing.

1       3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the outer casing operatively  
2       compresses the inner casing over at least one area, and wherein at least one  
3       vent is placed in the outer casing in the at least one area.1       4. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein an equalizing film is  
2       inserted between the outer casing and the inner casing -casing over the at least  
3       one area.

1       5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the inner casing comprises four parts.

1       6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein each part of the inner casing is made  
2       of a single abrasion-resistant material.

- 1        7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein parts of the inner casing are made
- 2                  from different abrasion-resistant materials.
  
- 1        8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the abrasion resistant inner surface is
- 2                  smooth
  
- 1        9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the abrasion resistant inner surface is
- 2                  textured.
  
- 1        10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the abrasion resistant inner surfaces
- 2                  are chosen from a group consisting of hard metals, carbides, borides, nitrides,
- 3                  and ceramic materials.
  
  
- 1        11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the inner casing comprises four
- 2                  parts.
  
- 1        12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein each part of the inner casing is
- 2                  made of a single abrasion-resistant material.
  
- 1        13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein parts of the inner casing are made
- 2                  from different abrasion-resistant materials.
  
- 1        14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the propellant fluid is air.
  
- 1        15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the propellant fluid is nitrogen.
  
- 1        16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the propellant fluid is steam.

- 1        17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the abrasion resistant inner surface  
2                  is smooth.
- 1        18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the abrasion resistant inner surface  
2                  is textured
- 1        19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the inner casing comprises four  
2                  parts.
- 1        20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein each part of the inner casing is  
2                  made of a single abrasion-resistant material.
- 1        21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein parts of the inner casing are made  
2                  from different abrasion-resistant materials.
- 1        22-26. (Canceled)